金魚坂上ル 2
PEACH-PIT
初恋の人。
きっとあなたが
KC DESSERT

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金魚坂上ル

KINGYOZAKA NOBORU

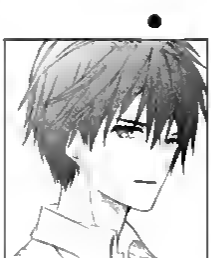
PEACH-PIT

2

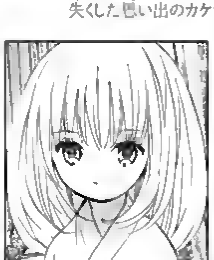
【金魚坂上ル　これまでのお話】

幼い時に暮らした深郷町に戻ってきたにしき。
蒼馬に見守られ、〝すくい屋〟をしながら、
失った思い出のカケラを捜す毎日。
朱と緋の兄妹に出会ったことで、
きつね面の男の子に出会った記憶を
取り戻せそうになるが。
再びカケラを失くし、蒼馬のことを忘れてしまって――。

花小野にしき
人助けをする〝すくい屋〟を始めた高校生。
失くした思い出のカケラを捜している。



蒼馬
にしきと同じ学校に通う
幼なじみ。弓道部に所属。



遠野朱
にしきが話し相手を編まれた
女の子。宮沢賢治が好き。

遠野紺
朱の兄。大学で民俗学の
研究をする。葛葉荘の管理人。

おばあちゃん
にしきの祖母。深郷町で
紙もの屋〝花お〟を営む。

カノ
弓道部のマネージャー。
蒼馬の気を引きたいか

ビダイ
葛葉荘の住人。
美大の浪人生。

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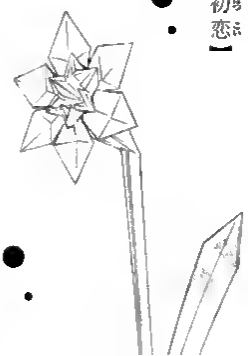
PHENOMENON 5: NAME

【初恋】



取材協力店

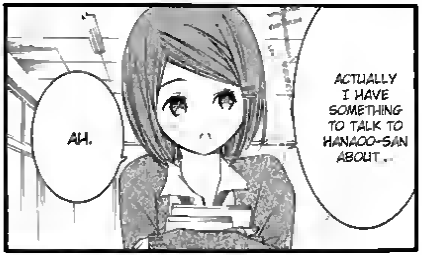
■ことこや

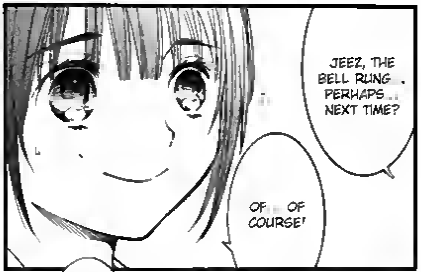
SOUMA.
YES, SOUMA!
THE CLASS-ROOM... DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT THIS WAY?
YES... AH.. YEAH! DON'T WORRY, ERM ...
SO IT'S LIKE THIS...

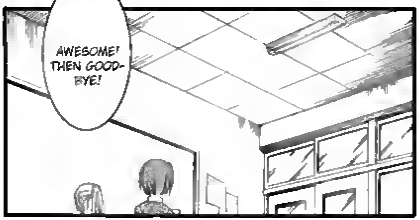
SEEMS LIKE SHE'S NOT IN A GOOD MOOD TODAY...
AFTER SCHOOL, I'LL COME TO YOUR CLASS TO FETCH YOU.
OKAY.
IN THIS CONDITION, YOU'LL PROBABLY LOSE YOUR WAY AGAIN AND GET LOST.
THANK... THANK YOU.

AH... EXCUSE ME!
ERM... DO YOU REMEMBER ME? ON THE DAY WHEN HANAOO-SAN TRANSFERRED, WE SPOKEN.
I'M KINODA MINAMI.
KINODA-SAN
OH, YOU DON'T REMEMBER, BUT THAT'S EXPECTED AS WE ONLY SPOKE A LITTLE.

OHHH~
THAT, ER, ERM SO... SORRY...
AH, NO, NO!
AND MY PRESENCE IS PRETTY WEAK TOO HAHA...


AH.
ACTUALLY I HAVE SOMETHING TO TALK TO HANAOO-SAN ABOUT...


JEEZ, THE BELL RUNG. PERHAPS... NEXT TIME?
OF... OF COURSE!


AWESOME! THEN GOOD-BYE!

.....

THIS IS KUZUHASOU ON KURAYA SLOPE
"KUZUHASOU" ...
HEY ...
THIS IS THE APARTMENT THAT YOU FREQUENTLY VISITED WHEN YOU WORK AS THE "SUKUIYA"
YEAH
DON'T WORRY, I REMEMBER, YOU KNOW
REALLY?
APPEARS
AH... ARE YOU THE PERSON WHO LIVES HERE?
SORRY, PUTTING THE BICYCLE IS A BIT OF AN OBSTACLE...

?
IT'S FINE. YOU LEAVING IT HERE WON'T MAKE ANGER ME...
AH.. IS... IS THAT SO?!
ARE YOU OK...Y?
AND BESIDES, THE THE FROMISE WE MADE PREVIOUSLY... IT'S READY
HA.... AH
TOMORROW ... YOU CAN COME OVER TO MY FL CE WHEN YOU FINISHED THE SUKUIYA'S JOB.
?
10
THAT'S ALL...
SO, BYE.
NO ...I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S ABOUT...
.....
Too no

HELLO, AKAI-CHAN!
AH, YOU'RE CLEANING? HOW'S KIN AND GIN?
VERY WELL! I'M JUST MOVING THEM OUTSIDE BECAUSE THE DUST ARE FALLING INSIDE THEIR BOWL

OH, I THINK THEY LOOK BIGGER?
YEP!
.....

HELLO!
AH, IT'S SUKUIYA-SAN AND SOUMA-SAN!

AIYO, WELCOME YOU TWO.
GOOD WORK BEING THE SUKUIYA

IT'S SO MESSY, SORRY ABOUT THAT...
I HAVE TO GO ON A FIELD TRIP TOMORROW, SO I WAS PACKING MY LUGGAGE
MAREBITO*
...
ARE YOU ALREADY OKAY? ABOUT YESTERDAY. WERE YOU GIVEN A SCOLDING?
YES, TRAVELERS ARE ALSO CUSTOM-ERS
KON... SAN...

* T/N: Note that the kanji for "Customer" and "Marebito" is the same. In this case Marebito refers to the spirits who visits the earth in Japanese folklore. They will visit frequently and bring along good luck with them. Therefore in Japan there are many places which has a festival for "Welcoming marebitos"

SHE WAS LECTURING ME AND TOLD ME THAT I ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO CARRY ALONG A CELLPHONE WITH ME
HAHA... THAT'S GOOD THEN...
THINKING LIKE A BROTHER AS AN EXAMPLE IS NOT THE BEST...
AHAHA... IT'S A HABIT OF MINE...
HE FORGETS TO BRING IT THREE TIMES IN A WEEK...
OH? IS THAT SO?
NISHIKI SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE NO PROBLEMS GETTING HOME
AH, YES
THEN, I'LL TAKE MY LEAVE...
OKAY
AH... THEN CAN I GET YOU TO HELP AKAI CHAN CLEAN UP?
IS THERE A REQUEST TODAY?

AKAI, THAT NICK-NAME IS A LITTLE...
SUKUI-YA-SAN NO 2, WON'T BE STAYING FOR TODAY
?? IS SOME-THING WRONG?
SOUMA... ERM, THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP
YOU'RE WELCOME..
SOUMA!
THIS, TAKE SOME HOME WITH YOU TO TRY!
SOMEONE GAVE US A LOT OF PERSIM-MONS...
KON-SAN...

IT'S NOT LIKE SHE FORGOT EVERYTHING, IT'S NOT ON A SCALE THAT AFFECTS HER DAILY LIFE
IT'S JUST THAT SOME OF THE MEMORIES FRAGMENTS IN HER MIND WILL OCCASIONALLY DISAPPEAR WITHOUT A TRACE.
AND THERE'S NO SYMPTOMS FOR WHEN IT HAPPENS,
AND SOMETIMES SHE WOULD ALSO SUDDENLY REMEMBER THEM.
DON'T REMEMBER..?
.....
THEN, THE ONES WHO KNOW ABOUT THIS..
IS HANAOO'S OBA-SAN AND THE PEOPLE IN MY HOUSE
I SEE..

I THINK IT'S HER SUBCONSCIOUS IN THIS SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME THAT SHE'S HERE
I THINK IT'S BECAUSE YOU TWO ARE IN A WAY SPECIAL TO HER
NISHIKI DIDN'T FORGET ABOUT YOU AND YOUR SISTER.
PLEASE,
TAKE CARE OF HER

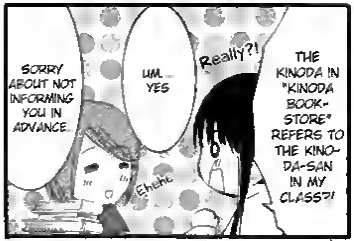
I am the "Sukuya".
MIYATA'S OBA-SAN PURCHASED A REQUEST... SO THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
UM...
The Sukuya has to continue...
I have to...
Collect more and more fragments...

THE AKAS-OME KINODA BOOKSTORE!
AH IF THAT'S THE CASE IT'S REALLY NEAR I'LL GIVE YOU A MAP.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH! THIS IS MY CARD!
NO NEED I ALREADY HAVE A LOT...
I'M GOING!

Until the day where all these have the ability to become

the person I am is complete.

本田書店
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF REQUEST IT IS...
AH! FOUND IT!
"IF THE WEATHER IS CLEAR, THEN I'LL NEED YOUR HELP. IF IT RAINS THAT WE'LL PLAN AGAIN" .?
IT REALLY DEPENDS ON THE WEATHER ..?
BUT THIS REQUEST IS REALLY WEIRD...


SORRY ABOUT NOT INFORMING YOU IN ADVANCE...
UM... YES
Really?!
THE KINODA IN "KINODA BOOK-STORE" REFERS TO THE KINO-DA-SAN IN MY CLASS?!
Ehehe

I HEARD THAT MY MOTHER REQUESTED FOR THE HELP OF THE "SUKUIYA"
AH, PLEASE, COME IN

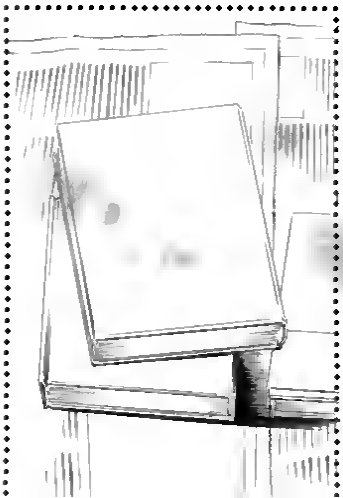
AH!
GOOD DAY, HANAOO-SAN!

THE SHOP IS CLOSED TODAY, SO WE DIDN'T SWITCH ON THE LIGHTS... THE PATH IS PRETTY NARROW, SO BE CAREFUL
AHH
WOW... AMAZING, EVEN THE SECOND FLOOR HAS A LOT OF BOOKS!
WE WANT TO DRY ALL THE BOOKS HERE OUTSIDE
OH, DRY? THE BOOKS...
YES
BECAUSE WHEN BOOKS ARE OLD THERE WILL BE BOOK-LOUSE AND SUCH...

BUT MY GRANDFATHER IS IN THE HOSPITAL, SO MY FAMILY HAS TO TAKE CARE OF BOTH PLACES AT THE SAME TIME.
NORMALLY, I DO IT TOGETHER WITH MY FAMILY,
IF WE DON'T DRY THEM FREQUENTLY, THERE WILL BE MOLDS AND BOOKLOUSE.

THE BOOKS WILL BE SUNBURNT, SO WE HAVE TO PUT THEM UNDER THE SHADE
EH? BUT WE HAVE TO DRY THE BOOKS SO WHY ARE WE MOVING THEM INTO THE SHADE?
AH THE SUNLIGHT REACHES THERE SO WE SHOULD MOVE THEM SLIGHTLY INWARDS

AH, THAT'S WHY YOU REQUESTED FOR MY ASSISTANCE!
YES SORRY ABOUT THAT IT'S SUNDAY AND WE'RE TROUBLING YOU.
NOT AT ALL! I'M THE "SUKUIYA"!



THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WE HAVE TO DO IS TO KEEP ALL THE BOOKS DRY IN THE EVENING AS THE HUMIDITY WILL INCREASE.
BECAUSE BOOKS ARE NOT COMPATIBLE WITH MOISTURE.
IT'S A TRADITION FROM MY FAMILY TO DO THIS ONCE A YEAR DURING THE SEASON CHANGE FROM SUMMER TO WINTER.
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK, LET'S TAKE A SHORT BREAK.
FUWAHH... I FEEL SO ACCOMPLISHED!
LET'S LEAVE THEM ALONE, AND TAKE THEM IN AFTER SOME TIME.
EH? BUT IT WAS SO DIFFICULT TO MOVE THEM OUT?!
AH... BUT THAT'S TRUE. WE HAVE TO TAKE THEM BACK IN AFTER ALL...
I SEE...!
IT'S LIKE THE BOOKS ARE ALIVE...
HEHE
HUH? DID I SAY SOMETHING WEIRD?
NO~

WOW, AWESOME! A SPLENDOR BOOK FROM THE OLDEN DAYS!
Cheek twitch
HOW OLD IS THAT BOOK?
ABOUT 60?
OH~~
HOW OLD ERM... IT'S WAS PUBLISHED IN SHOWA 27 SO...
MM... I WAS IN THE LIBRARY READING A REALLY OLD BOOK THEN
REA... REALLY?
ON THE DAY WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, HANAOO-SAN SAID THE EXACT SAME WORDS
THEN, IT'S NOT AS OLD AS MY GRANNY AT HOME. HEHE.
FROM THEN ON, I FELT LIKE YOU WERE REALLY EXTRAORDINARY, SO I PAID QUITE A BIT OF ATTENTION TO YOU.
AH... THERE WAS SUCH A THING HERE,HUH
HMM~~
THE BOOKS ARE HAPPY IN SUCH A FINE AUTUMN DAY AS WELL.
UH HUH.
AH... WHAT A COMFORTABLE BREEZE.

BECAUSE I WASN'T PARTICULARLY OUTSTANDING IN CLASS, SO EVEN IF SOMEONE MANAGED TO REMEMBER ME IT WAS A REALLY HAPPY THING FOR ME, UNTIL...
YES...
HOW DIRECT
IT'S SOMETHING NATURAL, I WAS ALWAYS CALLED KINODA OF THE BOOKSTORE.

THIS... IS KINODA-SAN'S ROOM?
OH? MM, YEAH
HOW CUTE... IT'S FILLED WITH PANDAS

IT WAS SOMETHING FROM WHEN I WAS IN GRADE 4
IF YOUR HOUSE OPERATES A BREAD SHOP, THEN AREN'T YOU A PANDA?
PANDA!

AH AH. I'M GUESSING YOU REALLY LIKE PANDAS? IT'S EVEN ON YOUR CLIP.
SUCH A PANDA MANIAC
HAHA, HOW EMBARRASSING FROM THE TIME I WAS IN GRADE 4 I STARTED COLLECTING THEM WITHOUT REALIZING
WHY GRADE 4?

IT WAS A TOTALLY MEANINGLESS NAME.
AHA HA HA!
IT'S JUST WHAT AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KID WOULD DO.
...FROM THEN ON UNTIL GRADUATION I WAS CALLED THE PANDA OF THE BOOKSTORE.

... THE RESULT WAS THIS ROOM. HAHA.
AND WITHOUT NOTICING I CAME TO LOVE PANDAS.
BUT WITH SUCH A NAME, THEY FINALLY REMEMBERED ME... AND I GOT MORE FRIENDS AS WELL.
IT'S A REAL GOOD THING...
YES... (IN THE SITUATION WHERE THE PANDA DOESN'T KNOW).
THE PANDA IS KINODA-SAN'S METAPHORICAL IMAGE...
THE PANDA OF THE BOOKSTORE... HOLDS A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART.
EVEN THOUGH KINODA FROM THE BOOKSTORE IS PRETTY GOOD AS WELL.
NICKNAME... IT'S LIKE A NAME GIVEN TO A PERSON JUST FOR THEM AFTER THEY WERE BORN. THAT'S WHY I KIND OF LIKE IT.

IT FEELS AS IF I ATTAINED A PLACE WITH THE HAPPINESS OF BEING BORN IN THIS WORLD.
AHAH... IT FEELS LIKE I BELONG HERE TOO.
IT'S LIKE RECEIVING A NAME THAT IS SPECIALLY TAILORED FOR ME AND NO ONE ELSE.
Panda-chan.
EH? WHY PANDA?
ATTAINED A PLACE... OF BEING BORN...
SHOCK
SO SO—SORRY.. WHENEVER I GET EXCITED I WILL START USING SUCH SELF-INVENTED METAPHORS..
I DON'T WRITE ALL THESE SAYINGS THAT I CREATED IN MY DIARY EVERY NIGHT, IT'S TRUE!
KINODA OF THE BOOK-STORE SUITS ME BETTER... AHAH
SHE SELF-DE-STRUCT-ED?!
Blush Furiously
NO NO, I THINK IT WAS REALLY EXCELLENT
VERY BEAUTIFUL!

ERM... IF YOU DON'T MIND... CAN WE BE FRIENDS?
...I WAS ALWAYS WONDERING WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING AT...

MM WE CAN CHAT A LOT MORE WHEN IN SCHOOL TOO
OF... OF COURSE WE CAN!
OH! CAN... I CAN WE? WITH ME...?!

AH... BECAUSE THE UNIFORM OF THE SUKUIYA IS THE SCHOOL UNIFORM... ERM, YEAH THAT
I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HANAOO-SAN, SUCH AS WHY IS SHE WEARING THE UNIFORM ON A NON-SCHOOL DAYS?
AH...
Will I Remember for sure...?
AH,RIGHT!

ME... I WAS ALWAYS HOPING TO SPEAK TO HANAOO-SAN
EVEN IN CLASS I WAS THINKING AS TO WHEN I SHOULD SPEAK TO YOU
REA... REALLY?! I DIDN'T KNOW THAT...
FUFU... BECAUSE HANAOO-SAN IS ALWAYS STARING AFAR.

I ALSO WANT TO GIVE HANAOO-SAN A NICKNAME!
ME?
MM...
ERM. HMM. WHAT NAME WILL BE GOOD...
ALRIGHT, THAT SHALL BE MY HOMEWORK FOR TODAY!
A NICKNAME THAT WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN BY ANYONE
Congratulations!
Congratulations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

い屋
.....
SHE'S SLOW
..WHAT ARE YOU DOING? MIDAI-SAN?
.....
Drawing with finger
I'M SO... SORRY IT WAS A PROMISE WE MADE FOR BEFORE SUNSET, RIGHT?
IT'S FINE. IT'S STILL A LITTLE BRIGHT ANYWAY...

Paints
THE MATERIALS I ORDERED IS FINALLY HERE
PAINT-BRUSH?
I DAMAGED THE SIGN ON THE BICYCLE...
IT WAS BOTHERING ME A LOT.
DIDN'T I PROMISED TO PAINT IT FOR YOU?

ALRIGHT... IT'S DONE.
?? ? WHAT KIND OF RIDICULOUS THINGS ARE YOU SAYING NOW...
How amazing!
OH? PAINTING!
SO MIDAI-SAN IS AN ARTIST FROM AN ART COLLEGE!

WHA, WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU DON'T LIKE IT...?
MIND TELLING ME, HEY...
.....
すい屋
MIDAI-SAN IS REALLY GREAT!!!
!?
THIS IS A MASTERPIECE OF THIS WORLD! IT'S ATTAINED A PLACE IN THIS WORLD!
NO NO.. HOW IS THIS A MASTER-PIECE?
?
SO HAPPY!
I'M SO HAPPY!
AWESOME...
WHY DON'T I REPAINT IT.

Congratu-
lations!
Congrat-
ulations!
I...
AM REALLY
HAPPY DOING
THE WORK OF
A SUKUIYA.

Kingyozaka Noboru

Chapter 5

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